

NOAA in the Carolinas Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 11

Time: 10 AM until 2 PM

Location: NOAA's NWS Weather Forecast Office - Wilmington, NC
2015 Gardner Dr Wilmington, NC 28405

Attendees: Aleta Hohn, Darin Figurskey, Jennifer Dorton, Rich Bandy, Rebecca Ellin

Phone: Susan White, David Evans, John Feldt, Mike Voiland, Jess Whitehead, Mike Emlaw, Ginny Fay,
Jack Thigpen, Steven O'Shields, Robert McGuinn

Guests: Steve Pfaff, Dean Carpenter, Don Field

AGENDA:

1. APNEP update and local, state and federal research initiatives in the Albemarle-Pamlico region –
Dean Carpenter and Don Field
 - a. See attached presentation
2. Long Bay hypoxia research, 2004 to present - Denise Sanger
 - a. See attached presentation
 - b. After the presentation, NOAA Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps were brought up. Steve Pfaff forwarded a link to the maps for reference:
[http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/type_subtopic_entry.php?RECORD_KEY%28entry_subtopic_type%29=entry_id.subtopic_id.type_id&entry_id\(entry_subtopic_type\)=74&subtopic_id\(entry_subtopic_type\)=8&type_id\(entry_subtopic_type\)=3](http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/type_subtopic_entry.php?RECORD_KEY%28entry_subtopic_type%29=entry_id.subtopic_id.type_id&entry_id(entry_subtopic_type)=74&subtopic_id(entry_subtopic_type)=8&type_id(entry_subtopic_type)=3)
3. Discussion of APNEP presentation
 - a. APNEP covers two LMEs since its watersheds extend into VA. Currently APNEP stops at the inside edge of the barrier islands. Dean would like for APNEP to extend from the headwaters to the coastal environment. Dean feels that NOAA involvement will be beneficial to this cause since APNEP will then include coastal/marine ecosystems and be more fully ecosystem focused (terrestrial out to the coast).
 - b. Questions that arose during discussion:
 - i. How can NinC Steering Committee be of assistance? Two NOAA personnel and two NinC SC members are members of APNEP committees: Don Field and Jud Kenworthy are on Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC); Jack Thigpen is chair of the Policy Board; and, Rebecca Ellin is on the Management Advisory Committee. Jack and Rebecca can be liaisons between APNEP and

NinC. Don can also provide info to Rebecca or Aleta from the STAC that might be worthwhile for NinC.

- ii. Can NinC provide Dean with info on how to get NOAA involvement so that he can get the needed input to extend APNEP boundaries to include coastal zone (i.e., are there 1-2 key NOAA people that can join APNEP and assist with this effort)? Then general answer was that NOAA has too many line offices and is too diverse for one individual to represent all of the NOAA interests. However, the NinC Steering Committee may be able to help by identifying people and contacts within their programs that can assist with modules, metrics and the expansion issue.
 - c. Aleta suggested having the STAC go out to NOAA agencies and ask for input on the APNEP modules and metrics design. This can also be a valuable data mining exercise so that APNEP can find available data for the region. STAC can also ask NinC SC to identify NOAA resources and expertise.
 - d. Two steps were identified as being the first steps that Dean should take:
 - i. Data mining for areas of concern – NinC SC can provide contacts at their NOAA offices that can assist with this (Chris Taylor mentioned as good example of someone who might be able to help).
 - ii. NinC work as go between for NOAA and APNEP since NOAA input is needed for Dean to make the case for APNEP to include marine zone. Dean wants all of the partners involved in this discussion.
 - 1. Initially Dean wants the partners to commit conceptually then have a workshop to determine each agencies involvement.
 - 2. Partners = NOAA, EPA, Fish & Wildlife, USACE, etc.
4. Approve 2008 Annual Meeting Report – Aleta
- a. Jack's paragraph is in the report. **Jack** review and make any changes, if needed.
 - b. **Jennifer & Rebecca** (and everyone else) - read through document up to appendices and send input back to Aleta. Deadline – Sept. 19.
 - c. After final read through report will go up to the website.
5. NOAA IPL update from SECART for FY11-15 – Steven O'Shields
- a. 8 regions weighed in on project alternatives (unfunded and underfunded projects). These projects were recommended to NOAA to be funded if \$ is available.
 - b. Projects recommended that relate to Carolinas:
 - i. NOAA regional collaboration effort and regional ocean governance support. Funding to support SE Alliance (ocean governance structure).

- ii. Test bed for integrated water resource services – HMT. CI Flow and NinC both mentioned in this one.
 - iii. IOOS RAs – SECOORA is the SE RA.
 - iv. Hazards Resilience – preparing coastal communities for climate and weather hazards, including key NOAA hazards products.
 - v. IEA expansion across all regions.
 - vi. Building NOAA and NOAA Sea Grant capabilities to expand climate outreach.
 - c. **Steven** send priority list to Jennifer for distribution to group if this is OK with Jeff.
 - i. Update: Steven is not able to share the details of the NOAA FY11-15 alternatives (proposals) outside of the agency. It can only be shared with NinC members who are NOAA employees but not anyone else (e.g., Sea Grant staff). If NOAA SC members would like to see the document, please contact Jeff or Steven (steven.o'shields@noaa.gov).
 - ii. Jeff has already shared the list of alternatives that SECART recommended be funded by NOAA. See attached Excel spreadsheet.
6. EPA activities - Preliminary meeting info - Robert McGuinn
- a. EPA Coastal Carolinas project meeting to be held in South Carolina was postponed until Jan 13-15.
 - i. **Robert** will send Jennifer EPA document that Jeff sent. Jennifer send to group.
 - ii. This workshop will be more collaborative – EPA, Hollings Marine Lab, CSC are all hosting the meeting.
 - 1. South Carolina workshop will try to engage stakeholder groups to participate in workshop. This requires some additional meeting planning so that appropriate stakeholder groups can be contacted and engaged.
 - iii. Concern over duplication of efforts between EPA, NOAA, APNEP, etc.
 - iv. Background reading: FY 2008-2014 EPA Ecological Research Program Multiyear Plan by Rick Lindhirst. **Jennifer** will ask Robert for this document.
 - b. Who should we invite to a Fall NinC Steering Committee Meeting
 - i. Dorsey Worthy is best person to invite. See if he would like to talk to us before meeting in South Carolina. Question to Dorsey: What can NinC do for EPA Coastal Carolinas initiative?
 - ii. Need more discussion on how NinC can participate with outside groups. Need to have this conversation at next meeting instead of having EPA attendance. Focus on internal discussions in October.

7. Website update – Jennifer (w/ input from Jeremy Shultz) – Discuss at October meeting but site update is underway.
8. Website v/s listserv – What should we display on website v/s posting via listserv - Discuss at October meeting.
 - a. Job postings, meeting opportunities, other?
9. Festival update – Jennifer
 - a. SC Sustainable Seafood Festival - Susan may have NinC poster for Sustainable Seafood Festival.
 - b. Jennifer contact Mike, Susan and Jeff to see if local Charleston folks are willing to participate.
 - c. SC Seagrass could also be a contributor – Jess Whitehead will find out if willing to participate.
10. Current progress on NinC Mission Statement and Purpose – collaborative – Discuss at October meeting.
11. Annual meeting
 - a. Discussed availability at Ft. Johnson. While the campus is a good place to host the meeting, hotels are rather far away as well as being pricey in May. Local festivals, College of Charleston and Citadel graduations will also take place in May.
 - b. General consensus to hold off on annual meeting until Fall.
 - c. For October meeting – discuss option of hosting meeting every 18-24 months instead of annual meeting.
 - d. Event planning: Jeff has a person at CSC who assisted with the registrations and meeting logistics for the 2008 meeting. Once we decide when to host the next NinC meeting, we need to see if she can assist again.
12. Look into video conferencing or using GoToMeeting software for future meetings. This will allow the conference call in participants to view. NWS Eastern Region HQ has 8 GoToMeeting licenses. We can schedule our calls through them.
13. Jennifer will post a Newsletter to the NinC listserv before end of September:
 - Upcoming festivals (NC Seafood Festival)
 - 2008 report coming out
 - Jennifer has job
 - Listserv
 - Website update

Next meeting: Week of October 20 in either Conway or Newport. This meeting will continue discussion on APNEP and Long Bay Hypoxia work. We also need to focus on the mechanism for NinC to get involved with outside groups. No invited guests for next meeting, just an in-house meeting.